REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are pending. By this Response, claims 1, 6, 11 and 13 are amended and claim 15 is added. Reconsideration and allowance based on the above amendments and following remarks are respectfully requested.

The Examiner rejects claims 1-10 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Seto, et al. (JP 10-293569A). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Although the Office Action states that claims 1-10 are rejected, applicant assumes, based on the Examiner's arguments, that claims 11-14 fall under this rejection as well. If applicant is mistaken, applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to clarify his rejection of the claims.

In response to applicant's previous arguments, the Examiner argues that "Seto discloses the ability to place characters (and also a series of characters) at various angles on a display". The Examiner further argues that Figs. 7, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 of applicant's disclosure illustrate each character in a box frame, similar to Seto's device. Furthermore, the Examiner states that "applicant discloses in Fig. 9 of the application under examinations the display of a series of characters or a specific angle and position on a display device and Fig. 9a and 9b of Seto disclose the same."

Applicant notes that it is the claims which recite applicant's invention, not the figures. The figures are provided in combination with the disclosure to

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provide an understanding of the claimed invention. It is, however, the claims which the Examiner should base his rejection upon and not a comparison of Seto's figures with applicant's figures.

It appears that the Examiner bases his entire rejection strictly from the figures of Seto and provides no basis within the reference for his rejection. If the Examiner would review the disclosure of Seto in regard to applicant's claim language, it would readily be ascertained that Seto fails to teach each and every aspect of applicant's claimed combinations.

Applicant provides a device which allows the user to input character data which includes the characters to be displayed, where the characters are to be positioned on the display and at what angle they are positioned. The characters are processed at the dot pattern level. A calculation is determined, based on the user input, where to place the dot pattern of the characters on the display. Consecutive characters which form a character series are calculated based on approximate reference points of previous characters. This method allows for accurate placement without defamation (modification) of characters such as reduction or expansion of the characters to fit in a specific arrangement.

For example, in devices such as navigation systems, in which memory is limited, the use of various font types and font sizes is reduced to save memory space. Thus, in order to achieve a visually pleasing appearance of the characters when arranged on the display, the use of proximal reference points

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is necessary. Therefore, no matter what type of font and size of font is used, the characters are positioned based on proximal reference points so that they don't have to be manipulated.

In contrast, Seto acts as a "word processor" in the sense that the method of Seto must modify the characters in order to place them on a display at a designated position. In fact, Seto teaches the "deforming" of the characters and character string when displayed. Particular use of the word "deforming" is found in the description of Figs. 5-8 of Seto. Applicants point the Examiner to Fig. 8 of Seto where it illustrates the characters being modified respective of the position the characters are located on the screen. Thus, the characters are modified or as described in Seto "deformed" and therefore, not displayed without modification as claimed by applicant.

Further, nowhere in Seto does it suggest or teach positioning characters at the dot pattern level. Moreover, Seto does not suggest or disclose the ability of a user to input a specified angle for a character string. In fact, this is impossible in Seto because the angle of the character string is manipulated to fit a specific location on the display and not at a specified angle.

Furthermore, Seto does not calculate approximate reference points for each character. Seto positions characters based on the position in which they are displayed and manipulates the characters to fit into their respective positions and not on a dot pattern level using approximate reference points and

other coordinate calculations. Therefore, Seto fails to teach each and every aspect of the claimed invention as required in a 35 U.S.C. 102 rejection.

Thus, Seto fails to disclose or suggest a character display device to display one or more characters without modification comprising; a recording means recording dot patterns and proximate reference points of each character of a character series; a coordinate calculation means obtaining said proximate reference point of each character of said character series from said recording means and calculating a display position of each character from a display angle, display reference position and said proximate reference point of said character series; and a display means obtaining a dot pattern for each character of said character series from said recording means and positioning each dot pattern of each character based on a calculated display position of each character calculated by said coordinate calculation means, thereby displaying each character, as recited in claim 1 and similarly recited in claims 6, 11 and 13. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

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CONCLUSION

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For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-15 are distinguishable over the cited reference. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is necessary in order to place this application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicant's representative at the number listed below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and further replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Claims:

Please amend the following claims.

Claim 1. (Twice Amended)

A character display device to display one or more characters without modification, comprising:

a recording means recording dot patterns and proximal reference points of each character of a character series;

a coordinate calculation means obtaining said proximal reference point of each character of said character series from said recording means and calculating a display position of each character from a display angle, display reference position and said proximal reference point of said character series; and

a display means obtaining a dot pattern for each character of said character series from said recording means and displaying each character based on a calculated display position of each character calculated by said coordinate calculation means.

Claim 6. (Twice Amended)

A method of character display to display one or more characters without modification, comprising the steps of:

obtaining a   proximal reference point of each character of a character series;

calculating, through a coordinate calculation means, a display position of each character from a display angle, display reference position and said proximal reference point of said character series;

obtaining a dot pattern for each character of said character series; and

displaying each character based on said calculated display position of each character calculated by said coordinate calculation means.

Claim 11. (Amended)

An apparatus which displays one or more characters of a character string in a desired position on a display device without modification, comprising:

a data input section in which character display data is provided by a user;

a character recorder which records dot patterns and proximal reference points of each character;

a character display calculator that obtains a proximal reference point for each character and calculates the display coordinates of each dot pattern of each character based on the character display data; and

a display control that controls the positional display of each character based on the calculated display coordinates.

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Claim 13. (Amended)

A method for displaying one or more characters of a character string in a desired position on a display device <u>without modification</u>, comprising the steps of:

inputting character display data;

recording dot patterns and proximal reference points of each character of a character string;

obtaining a proximal reference point for each character;

calculating the display coordinates of each dot pattern of each character based on the proximal reference points and the character display data; and

displaying each character based on the calculated display coordinates.

Claim 15 has been added.